

Amendment to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A spreader bar assembly for use with a kite powered conveyance device having a control bar ~~(26, 26')~~ element, said spreader bar assembly including a spreader bar ~~(18)~~ adapted for connection to a harness of a user of the kite powered conveyance device; an arm ~~(20, 20')~~ connected to said spreader bar and having a longitudinal axis; a ~~tether connector (42, 42')~~ mounted on said arm ~~(20, 20')~~ and adapted for connection thereto of a tether ~~(38)~~ from the kite powered device to connect the tether ~~(38)~~ to said spreader bar ~~(18)~~; and a hook ~~(22, 22')~~ mounted on said arm and adapted to be hooked to the control bar ~~(26, 26')~~ element of the kite powered conveyance device to connect the control bar ~~(26, 26')~~ element of the kite powered conveyance device to said spreader bar ~~(18)~~, characterized by said tether connector ~~(42, 42')~~ and said hook ~~(22, 22')~~ being rotatably mounted on said arm ~~(20, 20')~~ for rotation about the longitudinal axis of said arm.

2. (Currently Amended) A spreader bar assembly as claimed in claim 1, further characterized by ~~said~~ a tether connector ~~(42)~~ being formed integrally with said hook~~(22)~~.

3. (Currently Amended) A spreader bar assembly as claimed in claim 1, further characterized by said arm ~~(20, 20')~~ being pivotally connected to said spreader bar ~~(18)~~, and by a spring ~~(64)~~ urging said arm ~~(20, 20')~~ to extend from said spreader bar ~~(18)~~.

4. (Currently Amended) A spreader bar assembly as claimed in claim 1, further characterized by a quick release member ~~(72)~~ enabling release of said arm ~~(20')~~ from said spreader bar ~~(18)~~.

5. (Currently Amended) A spreader bar assembly as claimed in claim 1, further characterized by ~~said~~ a tether connector including a rotor member ~~(42')~~ and a shackle member ~~(66')~~ pivotally attached to said rotor member ~~(42')~~.

6. (Currently Amended) A spreader bar assembly as claimed in claim 1, further characterized by said hook being a snap hook ~~(22')~~.

7. (Withdrawn) A control apparatus for a kite powered conveyance device, including a control bar (26,26') adapted for connection by port and starboard control lines (30,36) to a kite (12) of the kite powered conveyance device; a tether guide (34,34') connected to an end of said control bar (26,26') ; a spreader bar (18) adapted for connection to a harness (16) of a user of the kite powered conveyance device; an arm (20,20') connected to said spreader bar (18) and having a longitudinal axis; a tether connector (42,42') mounted on said arm (20,20') ; a hook (22,22') mounted on said arm (20,20') and adapted to be connected to said control bar (26,26') to connect said control bar (26,26') to said spreader bar (18); and a tether (38) having a first end connected to said tether connector (42,42') and a second end adapted to be connected to one of the port and starboard control lines (30,36), said tether (38) passing through said tether guide (34,34'), characterized by said tether connector (42,42') and said hook (22,22') being rotatably mounted on said arm (20,20') for rotation about the longitudinal axis of said arm (20,20').

8. (Withdrawn) A control apparatus for a kite powered conveyance device as claimed in claim 7, further characterized by said tether connector (42) being formed

integrally with said hook (22).

9. (Withdrawn) A control apparatus for a kite powered conveyance device as claimed in claim 7, further characterized by said arm (20,20') being pivotally connected to said spreader bar (18), and by a spring (64) urging said arm (20, 20') to extend from said spreader bar (18).

10 (Withdrawn) A control apparatus for a kite powered conveyance device as claimed in claim 7, further characterized by a quick release member (72) enabling release of said arm (20') from said spreader bar (18).

11. (Withdrawn) A control apparatus for a kite powered conveyance device as claimed in claim 7, further characterized by said tether connector including a rotor member (42') and a shackle member (66') pivotally attached to said rotor member (42').

12. (Withdrawn) A control apparatus for a kite powered conveyance device as claimed in claim 7, further characterized by said hook being a snap hook (22').

13. (Withdrawn)A control apparatus for a kite powered conveyance device as claimed in claim 7, further characterized by said tether guide (34,34') having a slot (44) extending from an end thereof into said tether guide (34,34") for passage therethrough of said tether (38), the slot (44) being sized in relationship to said tether (38) to permit said tether guide (34,34') to grip said tether (38) in the slot (44), while allowing removal of said tether (38) from the slot (44) in response to pulling on said tether(38).

14. (Withdrawn)A control apparatus for a kite powered conveyance device as claimed in claim 13, further characterized by the slot (44) terminating within said tether guide (34,34', 34") in a circular portion (76).

15. (Withdrawn)A control apparatus for a kite powered conveyance device as claimed in claim 14, further characterized by the circular portion (76) having a diameter greater than the width of the slot (44).

16. (Withdrawn)A control apparatus for a kite powered conveyance device, including a control bar (26) adapted for connection by port and starboard kite leads (28,32) and

port and starboard kite control lines (30,36) to a kite (12) of the kite powered conveyance device; a tether guide (34") adapted for connection to one of the kite leads (28,32) ; a spreader bar (18) adapted for connection to a harness (16) of a user of the kite powered conveyance device; an arm (20,20') connected to said spreader bar (18) and having a longitudinal axis; a tether connector (42,42') mounted on said arm (20,20') ; a hook (22,22') mounted on said arm (20,20') and adapted to be hooked to said control bar (26) to connect said control bar (26) to said spreader bar (18) ; and a tether (38) having a first end connected to said tether connector (42, 42') and a second end adapted to be connected to one of the port and starboard control lines (30,36), said tether (38) passing through said tether guide (34"), characterized by said tether connector (42,42') and said hook (22,22') being rotatably mounted on said arm (20,20') for rotation about the longitudinal axis of said arm (20,20').

17. (Withdrawn)A control apparatus for a kite powered conveyance device as claimed in claim 16, further characterized by said tether connector (42) being formed integrally with said hook (22).

18. (Withdrawn)A control apparatus for a kite powered conveyance device as claimed in claim 16, further characterized by said arm (20,20') being pivotally connected to said spreader bar (18), and by a spring (64) urging said arm (20, 20') to extend from said spreader bar (18).

19. (Cancelled).

20. (Withdrawn)A control apparatus for a kite powered conveyance device as claimed in claim 16, further characterized by said tether connector including a rotor member (42') and a shackle member (66') pivotally attached to said rotor member (42').

21. (Canceled).

22. (Withdrawn)A control apparatus for a kite powered conveyance device as claimed in claim 16, further characterized by said tether guide (34'') having a slot (44) extending from an end thereof into said tether guide (34'') for passage therethrough of said tether (38), the slot (44) being sized in relationship to said tether (38) to permit said tether guide (34'') to grip said tether (38)

in the slot (44), while allowing removal of said tether (38) from the slot (44) in response to pulling on said tether (38).

23. (Canceled).

24. (Canceled).

25. (Withdrawn) A kite powered conveyance device, including a kite (12) having port and starboard ends; a control bar (26,26') having port and starboard ends; port and starboard control lines (30,36) connecting the port and starboard ends of said control bar (26,26') to the port and starboard ends, respectively, of said kite (12); a tether guide (34,34') connected to one end of said control bar (26,26') ; a harness (16) adapted to be worn by a user of said kite powered conveyance device; a spreader bar (18) connected to said harness (16); an arm (20,20') connected to said spreader bar (18) and having a longitudinal axis; a tether connector (42,42') mounted on said arm (20,20') ; a hook (22,22') mounted on said arm (20,20') and hooked to said control bar (26,26') to connect said control bar (26,26') to said spreader bar (48); and a tether (38) having a first end connected to said tether connector (42,42') and a

second end connected to one of said port and starboard control lines (30, 36), said tether passing through said tether guide (34,34'), characterized by said tether connector (42,42') and said hook (22,22') being rotatably mounted on said arm (20,20') for rotation about the longitudinal axis of said arm (20,20').

26. (Withdrawn)A kite powered conveyance device as claimed in claim 25, further characterized by said tether connector (42) being formed integrally with said hook (22).

27. (Withdrawn)A kite powered conveyance device as claimed in claim 25, further characterized by said arm (20,20') being pivotally connected to said spreader bar (18), and by a spring (64) for urging said arm (20,20') to extend from said spreader bar (18).

28. (Canceled).

29. (Withdrawn)A kite powered conveyance device as claimed in claim 25, further characterized by said tether connector including a rotor member (42') and a shackle member (66') pivotally attached to said rotor member (42').

30. (Canceled).

31. (Withdrawn)A kite powered conveyance device as claimed in claim 25, further characterized by said tether guide (34, 34') having a slot (44) extending from an end thereof into said tether guide (34, 34') for passage therethrough of said tether (38), the slot (44) being sized in relationship to said tether (38) to permit said tether guide (34, 34') to grip said tether (38) in the slot (44), while allowing removal of said tether (38) from the slot (44) in response to pulling on said tether (38).

32. (Canceled).

33. (Canceled).

34. (Withdrawn)A kite powered conveyance device, including a kite (12) having port and starboard ends; a control bar (26) having port and starboard ends; port and starboard kite leads (28,32) connected to said port and starboard ends, respectively, of said control bar (26); port and starboard control lines (30,36) connecting said port and starboard kite leads (28,32) to the port and starboard ends, respectively, of said kite (12); a tether guide (34")

connected to one of said kite leads (28,32) ; a harness (16) adapted to be worn by a user of said kite powered conveyance device; a spreader bar (18) connected to said harness (16); an arm (20,20') connected to said spreader bar (18) and having a longitudinal axis; a tether connector (42,42') mounted on said arm (20,20') ; a hook (22,22') mounted on said arm (20,20') and hooked to said control bar (26) to connect said control bar (26) to said spreader bar (18); and a tether (38) having a first end connected to said tether connector (42,42') and a second end connected to one of said port and starboard control lines (30,36), said tether passing through said tether guide (34"), characterized by said tether connector (42,42') and said hook (22,22') being rotatably mounted on said arm (20,20') for rotation about the longitudinal axis of said arm (20,20').

35. (Withdrawn)A kite powered conveyance device as claimed in claim 34, further characterized by said tether connector (42) being formed integrally with said hook (22).

36. (Withdrawn)A kite powered conveyance device as claimed in claim 34, further characterized by said arm (20,20') being pivotally connected to said spreader bar (18), and by

a spring (64) for urging said arm (20,20') to extend from said spreader bar (18).

37. (Canceled).

38. (Withdrawn)A kite powered conveyance device as claimed in claim 34, further characterized by said tether connector including a rotor member (42') and a shackle member (66') pivotally attached to said rotor member (42').

39. (Canceled).

40. (Withdrawn)A kite powered conveyance device as claimed in claim 34, further characterized by said tether guide (34'') having a slot (44) extending from an end thereof into said tether guide (34'') for passage therethrough of said tether (38), the slot (44) being sized in relationship to said tether (38) to permit said tether guide (34'') to grip said tether (38) in the slot (44), while allowing removal of said tether (38) from the slot (44) in response to pulling on said tether (38).

41-59. (Canceled).

60. (New) A spreader bar assembly as claimed in claim 1, further characterized by said hook being rotatably mounted on said arm for rotation about the longitudinal axis of said arm.

61. (New) A spreader bar assembly as claimed in claim 1, further characterized by said control element comprising a control bar adapted to be used with a wind-powered conveyance device.

62. (New) A spreader bar assembly as claimed in claim 1, further characterized by said control element comprising a control apparatus adapted to be used with a self-propelled conveyance device.

63. (New) A spreader bar assembly as claimed in claim 1, further characterized by a quick-release member enabling release of said hook from said arm.